

THE WASHINGTON CRITIC, THURSDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 22, 1885.

WASHINGTON CRITIC

Published Daily, Sundays Excepted.

BY

The Evening Critic Publishing Company

—
BALLET KILBOURN, President;

W. SCOTT TOWERS, Treasurer;

R. H. SYLVESTER, Secretary,

Office, No. 941 D Street

Post Building

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TERMS:

Single Copy..... \$2 Cents
By Carrier..... \$2 Cents
By Mail, postage paid, one year..... \$25 Cents
By Mail, postage paid, two years..... \$45 Cents
Mail Subscriptions invariably in advance.

Address

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Washington, D. C.

RICHARD H. SYLVESTER, — Editor

WASHINGTON, D. C., OCT. 22, 1885

THE NEXT HOUSE.

In the coming Congress there will be 184 Democrats and 141 Republicans, counting General Weaver of Iowa as a Democrat and Mr. Brunn of Pennsylvania as a Republican, both of these gentlemen being known in political parlance as Greenbackers. In this classification it is also assumed that the vacancy in the fifth district of Illinois, represented in the last Congress by Mr. Ellwood, will be filled at the November election by a Republican, and the vacancies in the eighth New York district, lately represented by Mr. S. S. Cox, and nineteenth Pennsylvania district, formerly Mr. Swope's, by Democrats. Therefore in a full House the Democrats will have a majority of forty-three, whereas in the Forty-eighth Congress they had a majority of seventy-five.

But forty-three is as safe a working majority as seventy-five, and much easier to handle; provided the party is under judicious leadership and not blinded to the essentials of success by factious animosities and jealousies in its own councils, as was notably the case last winter in its wrangles over the tariff question.

The House will continue to be an agonized by a Republican Senate and the free course of legislation to correspondingly impeded; but it is possible for the Democrats at both ends of the Capitol to make a much better record than was made by their immediate predecessors, and it will be absolutely necessary for them to do so. In order to popularize and strengthen the Administration. With a feeble, temporizing or negative support of President Cleveland, and material differences among themselves as to the lines of policy that he may point out in his message, they cannot expect to hold the confidence of the country, and will simply play into the hands of the ambitious generals of the Republican party who are planning to recapture the ground they lost in 1884 and secure from the people another long lease of power.

Our Democratic friends have been insisting long and loudly that a change in the political character of the Administration was imperatively needed for the purification of the Government and the welfare of the governed; it is now incumbent upon them to substantiate it. This, they can do, if honest and wise, despite the opposition of the Senate, but never, without a thoroughly sympathetic understanding between the House and the President, and a whole-hearted determination on the part of the former to support the Executive in all reasonable recommendations, even at some sacrifice of local or partisan prejudices to the contrary.

This Curie is moved to these remarks not by party feeling, but on the higher and broader ground that a change of Administration having been brought about and a President elected who, as far as can be judged, deserves the public confidence, it is better for the country that the new order of things be put to its fullest and fairest test than to be overturned through the inability or contentious indisposition of its friends to sustain it. In other words it is better for the material interests of the people, the present Administration being found to possess the elements of honesty and capacity, that they be spared for a while the trying ordeal of a political revolution.

We are told that all the newspaper men have been expelled from Serbia. There is not a grain of truth in it. The way that events have been mislaid and inventions guessed at as shown by the news from that country conclusively shows that there have been no newspaper men in Serbia to expel.

Governor Bourne of Massachusetts is the first State executive this year to appoint a day for Thanksgiving. He designates November 26 next. It is appropriate that the Plymouth Rock State should take the fore in arranging for a Puritan festivity.

I have been given out that there is something seedy in the administration of the Fish Commission, Professor Baird will demand an investigation by Congress. He insists that the Commission has been hooking nothing that it was not fairly entitled to.

The Popular Periodicals. The November number of *Harper's Magazine* is an interesting paper on the New York Stock Exchange, with portraits of W. H. Vanderbilt, Jay Gould, Cyrus Field, and others. The illustrations by W. D. Howells and Miss Woolson, a continuation of Goldsmith's Comedy, "She Stoops to Conquer," with illustrations, is a short story by F. Austerlitz. Illustrated in a short story by A. Austin, illustrated in a short story by G. L. Jackson, and numerous other readable articles with charming illustrations.

For the current month, containing the lawyer's "Great Case," part second, by Thomas Wharton; "Queen Anne, or Free Class Architecture," by George E. Mason, Jr.; a paper by Ernest Ingersoll, on the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology; several bright short stories, poems and the usual monthly gossip.

Cassell's Family Magazine has installments of "Madame Bovary," "The Garden in October," "The American Poet—Whittier," "What to Wear," a song, with music by Cotford Dick, short stories, poems and other articles of general interest.

The Musical Herald of this month is an unusually interesting number. "Music Among the Aztecs," and "The Relations of Music to Mental Progress," are the subjects of two very instructive papers.

MY SOUL AND SELF.

My soul and self walked hand in hand.
Disclosing of time to be,
When we should view the "Promised Land."
And sink into eternity.

The star of Hope was in my sky,
And Earth was all the world I knew,
While Love and Truth were always nigh.
To cheer me in their rosy bower.

I asked my sighing soul to tell
What secret it now wraps the tomb,
Or if there were a home unknown.
To torture in eternal gloom.

I heard an echo faint and low
Come sounding o'er the wreck of years—
A voice left me to all the years.

Dark silence brooded o'er my heart,
And wrought a chain of despair—
My soul and self then tore apart,
With nothing here and nothing there!

—John A. Joyce.

Washington, October 22.

PEOPLE IN GENERAL.

"There are no such things as rubbers, women."—The author of "Foul Play" the hero is a young clergyman. He and the heroine are shipwrecked and reach an island of which they are the only inhabitants for months. They are madly in love with each other. The hero argues with himself the question whether he, a minister, can marry himself to his sweetheart, and comes to

the conclusion that he can do so legally, but proceeds no further. Mr. Read pronounces that such a marriage would have been legal. Upon the publication of "Foul Play" the legality of such a ceremony was discussed by the press and by the legal fraternity of England for some months. It was finally dropped without any definite solution of the conundrum.

PATRICK BREWER, the Danish Minister, whose objectionable military, together with the levying of taxes by King Christian by royal decree when the Parliament had refused to vote the budget, had caused almost an uprising in Denmark, was fired at twice in the streets of Copenhagen yesterday afternoon by a printer. The press is always in the front when the rights of the people are involved. Some of the most prominent people who have taken shots at the Czars of all the Russias were editors and printers. They suffer under one disadvantage, however. They are not sufficiently familiar with the use of firearms to be able to hit the mark every time. This, of course, does not include the typical American Journalist.

In his speech at Jamestown, N. Y., yesterday afternoon, Judge Foraker admitted that the Democrats since coming into power had trifled two of their promises; they had looked over the books and counted the money. They had further promised to restore prosperity, but this promise was still unfulfilled. The Judge deserves credit for his candor. He is about the only Republican we have heard of who has the fairness to admit that the prosperity of the country needs recuperation. He should also understand that the Democratic party can hardly be expected to undo in six months the mischief that the Republican party has been working at for twenty years.

WE can hardly accept Henry Ward Beecher's statement that he is a Grover Cleveland Republican. We should class him as an Iowa Davenport Democrat. This is fairer to Mr. Beecher.—*Publ. Press.*

A Western town the other day Mr. Dunn was married to Miss Wright, and all the papers went out "Dunn Wright" in the account of the wedding, but the bride's dress was a yellowish-white stamped velvet. Lady Dilke had a most unpleasant experience at a ball in New York. Captain M. G. Patterson, a man of great wit and good humor, was the only one glad that she had such a duncy, sympathetic husband at last.

MAJOR BEN: PERHAPS FOON, the major is just recovering from a severe illness. Writing from his historic house at Indian Hill, near Newburyport, Mass., to a friend in Philadelphia, he blithely says: "Last week I was tried by my physician on the strength of my great quantity of hair, and he said I must be well again."

WANTED—A Capable Person as

WANTED—A Girl to Go to Donegal

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